

California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans News

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NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER ACCEPTS DEED TO LAND TO BUILD VETERANS HOME

California is one step closer to building another state veterans home as Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger accepted the deed to land in West Los Angeles, where the home will be constructed. The Governor accepted the official documents on behalf of California from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs during a brief ceremony attended by representatives of the California Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans service organizations. This project is the first of five planned veterans homes. The other four will be located in Ventura, Lancaster, Fresno and Redding.

"The honorable men and women who served our country and fought for democracy deserve a place to call home during their later years," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "I am very pleased that the proposal for building this veterans home in West Los Angeles is succeeding. The construction of this veterans home will allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide veterans with the highest quality of care, in a comfortable and familiar environment."

California Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Tom Johnson presented Governor Schwarzenegger with a copy of a signed deed to the land, thus memorializing the transfer of ownership from the federal government to the state, paving the way for completion of the additional steps necessary for constructing the veterans home.

"This is a significant milestone for the 2.2 million veterans in California," said Secretary Johnson. We are a step closer to providing additional housing and healthcare services to our veterans."

The deed transfers ownership of 13.378 acres of land on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles campus to the state. This land will be used to build a new 400-bed veterans home that will provide multiple levels of care for aged and disabled veterans.

As part of the overall Greater Los Angeles Ventura County Veterans Home (GLAVC) project, two satellite facilities with sixty beds each will also be built in Lancaster and Ventura.

The project is part of an ambitious plan the state has been pursuing with the help of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to build five new veterans homes in California, which includes the three facilities that make up the GLAVC project and plans to build homes in Fresno and Redding. he GLAVC project is expected to be completed by the fall of 2009.

Note to editors: This News for Veterans and previous CDVA news for veterans, news releases, and advisories are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via e-mail from jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov.